

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for increasing plant yield, said method comprising: (a) introducing into a plant a cyclin A nucleic acid molecule[[[,]]] preferably encoding a cyclin A protein, said cyclin A protein comprising a motif consisting of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L (SEQ ID NO:6), wherein said cyclin A nucleic acid molecule is operably linked to a seed-preferred promoter; and selecting a plant exhibiting at least one of increased seed weight, increased number of filled seeds, increased seed number, increased seed size, increased harvest index, increased thousand kernel weight or modified seed composition, each relative to a corresponding control plant.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 1, wherein said plant yield is selected from one or more of the following: increased seed weight, increased number of filled seeds, increased seed number, increased seed size, increased harvest index, increased thousand kernel weight and modified seed composition, each relative to corresponding control plants.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said cyclin A protein comprises a motif consisting: of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said cyclin A nucleic acid molecule is a cyclin A2 nucleic acid molecule encoding a cyclin A2 protein[[[,]]] selected from cyclin A2;1, cyclin A[[[,]]]2;2, cyclin A2;3 and cyclin A2;4, said cyclin A2 protein further comprising a motif consisting of: E L I L V/I/T/M D/E/M Y T/S/H/P/G E R/L L/R/K/N E L P S (SEQ ID NO:7), having at least two of residues (--T----F--F---).

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to claim 4, wherein said cyclin A2 nucleic acid molecule encoding said cyclin A2 protein is a variant cyclin A2 sequence selected from:

- (i) [[F]]functional portions of a cyclin A2;1, A2;2, A2;3 or A2;4 nucleic acid molecule;
- (ii) [[S]]sequences capable of hybridising to a cyclin A2;1, A2;2, A2;3 or A2;4 nucleic acid molecule/gene;
- (iii) [[A]]alternative splice variants of a cyclin A2;1, A2;2, A2;3 or A2;4 nucleic acid molecule/gene;
- (iv) [[A]]allelic variants of a cyclin A2;1, A2;2, A2;3 or A2;4 nucleic acid molecule/gene;
- (v) [[V]]variants of (i) through (iv) due to the degeneracy of the genetic code; and
- (vi) [[H]]homologues, derivatives and active fragments of a cyclin A2;1, A2;2, A2;3 or A2;4 protein.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 6, wherein a variant cyclin A of (i) to (v) is capable of encoding a protein comprising a motif consisting of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L and a motif consisting of E L I L V/I/T/M D/E/M Y T/S/H/P/G E R/L L/R/K/N E L P S, having at least two of residues (--T----F--F--).

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 6, wherein said variant cyclin A of (vi) comprises a motif consisting of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L and a motif consisting of E L I L V/I/T/M D/E/M Y T/S/H/P/G E R/L L/R/K/N E L P S, having at least two of residues (--T----F--F--).

Claim 9 (withdrawn/amended): The [[m]]method according to claim 1 wherein said seed-preferred promoter is a promoter active in the endosperm.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 9, wherein said promoter is a prolamin promoter.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The method according claim 4, wherein said increased yield is achieved in optimal and sub-optimal growing conditions.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 11, wherein said sub-optimal growing condition comprises abiotic stress conditions, such as salt stress.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said plant is selected from rice, maize, wheat, barley, soybean, sunflower, canola, sugarcane, alfalfa, millet, barley, rapeseed, sorghum and cotton.

Claim 14 (currently amended): Plants obtainable by a method according to claim 1 or 2.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): A construct comprising:

- (ii) a nucleic acid encoding a protein comprising a motif consisting of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L and optionally in addition a motif consisting of E L I L V/I/T/M D/E/M Y T/S/H/P/G E R/L L/R/K/N E L P S, having at least two of residues (--T----F--F---) present;
- (iii) a seed-preferred promoter; and optionally
- (iii) a transcription terminator sequence.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): A construct according to claim 15, wherein said seed-preferred promoter is a promoter active in the endosperm.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A construct according to claim 16, wherein said promoter is a prolamin promoter.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A plant expressing a cyclin A under the control of a seed-preferred promoter, wherein said cyclin A comprises a motif consisting of W L V/I E V S/A D/E D/E Y K/R/T L and optionally in addition a motif consisting of E L I L V/I/T/M D/E/M Y T/S/H/P/G E R/L L/R/K/N E L P S, having at least two of residues (--T----F--F---) present, which plants have increased yield relative to corresponding wild type plants and relative to transgenic plants constitutively expressing cyclin A.

Claim 19 (withdrawn) A plant according to claim 18, wherein said seed-preferred promoter is a promoter active in the endosperm.

Claim 20 (withdrawn) A plant according to claim 19, wherein said promoter is a prolamin promoter.